



06-CV-00099-DOCTRIM

*K-L*

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
WESTERN DIVISION

FILED

FEB 02 2006

JAMES BONINI, Clerk  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Jill Giles on Behalf of Herself )  
and a Class of Persons Similarly Situated, )  
2019 Edgecliff Point )  
Cincinnati, OH 45206 )

Plaintiff, )

v. )

James Frey )  
Address Unknown )  
New York, New York )

and )

Random House, V.G. Inc. )  
1745 Broadway )  
New York, New York, 10019 )

AGENT FOR SERVICE )  
OF PROCESS )

Katherine J Trager )  
1745 Broadway )  
New York, New York 10019 )

Defendants. )

Case No. **1:06 CV 058**

Judge: WEBER, n. d.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT  
JURY DEMAND INDORSED HEREON

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Jill Giles, on her behalf and on behalf of similarly situated individuals, states as follows:

SUMMARY

1. This is a Class Action brought by Jill Giles, on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated persons (the "Class"), who have purchased the book or media adaptation of "A Million Little Pieces" since its publication in April 2003. The Defendant Random House has,

since the book's publication, marketed and distributed the book as a book of "non-fiction" or as a "non-fiction memoir," when in fact, the book, by the author's own admission is replete with fictional and concocted stories. In short, Plaintiff and the putative class of individuals she represents purchased this book under false pretenses due to being misled by the Defendant James Frey and his publisher Random House, Inc.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. Plaintiff realleges Paragraph 1 of this Class Action Complaint and incorporates by reference herein as if fully rewritten.

3. Plaintiff Jill Giles ("Giles") is and at all times mentioned herein, a citizen and resident of the County of Hamilton, State of Ohio. She had purchased her book from Joseph Beth Bookstore in Hamilton County, State of Ohio.

4. James Frey is and at all times mentioned herein, a citizen and resident of the state of New York.

5. Defendant Random House, Inc. ("Random House") is a New York corporation which publishes and distributes reading material such as fiction and non-fiction books. Random House's principal place of business is in New York, and doing business here in the state of Ohio as a distributor and seller of books and other such media adaptation of the book.

6. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), codified at 28 U.S.C. §1332(d), 1453, because: (1) the putative class action consists of at least 100 proposed class members; (2) the citizenship of at least one putative class member is different from that of Defendant; and (3) the aggregate amount in controversy by the claims of the plaintiffs and the proposed class members exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

7. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(a) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred here.

**GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

8. Plaintiff realleges Paragraphs 1 through 7 of this Class Action Complaint and incorporates by reference herein as if fully rewritten.

9. In April 2003 Random House published the book entitled "A Million Little Pieces" authored by Defendant James Frey (hereinafter referred to as the "Book"). Random House marketed the Book as a "memoir" and a work of "non-fiction."

10. Central to the Book is the author's assertions that he was charged with assaulting an Ohio police officer with his car, with inciting a riot, with possession of crack cocaine and felony drunk driving-charges that he wrote resulted in a three-month prison term.

11. An Internet Web-Site called the "Smoking Gun," owned and operated by Court TV, reported in January 2006 that most of those claims were false, and not borne out by police records.

12. On January 26, 2006 Defendant Frey appeared on the syndicated television program Oprah, and admitted that the assertions contained in herein of this Complaint were false, among other assertions contained in the Book.

13. At the time Frey wrote the Book, Frey knew that the assertions contained in the Book were false.

14. At the time Random House published the Book, it knew or should have known that the assertions contained in herein of this Complaint were false, especially because the falsity of these statements were borne out by public records.

**ALLEGATIONS PERTAINING TO THE PLAINTIFF**

15. Plaintiff realleges Paragraphs 1 through 14 of this Class Action Complaint and incorporates by reference herein as if fully rewritten.

16. Plaintiff, Jill Giles, after observing advertisements from Defendants in various media, purchased the Book from Joseph Beth Bookstore in Hamilton County, Ohio believing that the Book was a non-fictional recount of Defendant James Frey.

17. After purchasing the book, Plaintiff read the book and continued to believe that the book was a true recount of James Frey as continued media and advertisements about the book continued.

18. Central to the Book is the author's assertions that he was charged with assaulting an Ohio police officer with his car, with inciting a riot, with possession of crack cocaine and felony drunk driving-charges that he wrote resulted in a three-month prison term.

19. On or about January 26, 2006 Defendant Frey appeared on the syndicated television program Oprah, and admitted that the assertions contained in herein of this Complaint were false, among other assertions contained in the Book.

20. At the time Frey wrote the Book, Frey knew that the assertions contained in the Book were false.

21. At the time Random House published the Book, it knew or should have known that the assertions contained in herein of this Complaint were false, especially because the falsity of these statements were borne out by public records.

22. Plaintiff had believed from statements and advertisements that the book was accurate and non-fictional at the time of purchases and was induced to purchase the book by such assertions by and through the Defendants that the contents were non-fictional

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

23. Plaintiff realleges Paragraphs 1 through 22 of this Class Action Complaint and incorporates by reference herein as if fully rewritten

24. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on behalf of a Class. The Class consists of:

All individuals who had purchased the book or other such media titled "A Million Little Pieces" authored by Defendant James Frey (hereinafter referred to as the "Book") published and distributed by Random House.

25. The Class is also hereby divided into a subclass:

All residents of the State of Ohio who had purchased the book or other such media titled "A Million Little Pieces" authored by Defendant James Frey (hereinafter referred to as the "Book") published and distributed by Random House (the "Subclass").

26. Excluded from the Class are the Defendants, any person or other entity employed by, related to, or affiliated with Defendants, the judge assigned to this case and his or her staff, and counsel of record for Plaintiff and Defendants.

27. Plaintiff is a member of the Class she seeks to represent and a member of the Subclass.

28. On information and belief, the Class and the Subclass are each believed to include hundreds of persons who purchased this book or similar media. As a result, joinder of all Class members in a single action is impracticable.

29. Plaintiff brings this action on her own behalf and, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rules 23(a), (b)(1), (b)(2) and (b)(3), on behalf of a class of all individuals that purchased, between April 2003 and January 16, 2006, the Book.

30. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. At this time, Plaintiff does not know the exact size of the Class, which can only

be ascertained through discovery. However, Plaintiff believes that thousands of present and former purchasers of the Book purchased the Book based on the way in which Random House falsely marketed the Book.

31. There exist questions of law and fact common to all members of the Class, and which predominate over any questions which only affect individual Class members. These common questions of law and fact include:

- a. What steps Random House took, prior to publishing the Book, the truth or veracity of Defendant Frey's assertions.
- b. Whether Defendants breached a duty owed to the public to ascertain the truthfulness of the contents before publishing and marketing.
- c. Whether Defendants' knew of the falsity of the statements at the time they were published; and
- d. Whether Defendants have engaged in a common scheme or course of conduct in the marketing, sales and promotion of the Book whereby Class Members have been induced to purchase the Book and associated media by false representations or by fraudulent representations
- e. Whether as a result of its representation, promises and agreements contained in promotions and marketing, Defendants are estopped from collecting and charging for the sale of the book and associated media.

- f. Whether selling this book under deceptive practices has unjustly enriched Defendants.
- g. Whether Defendants intentionally have and continue to sell and market the book as non-fictional
- h. Whether Defendants' conduct violates the Ohio Deceptive Practice and Consumer Protection Acts.
- i. Whether the Class is entitled to damages.

32. Since Plaintiff and all other members of the Class sustained injury as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts, Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class.

33. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff has retained able counsel with extensive experience in class action litigation.

34. The interests of the Plaintiff are coincident with and not antagonistic to the interests of the other Class members.

35. Prosecution of separate actions by members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants.

36. Furthermore, adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of the other members not parties to the adjudications or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.

37. Since joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable, a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy. Further, because the injury suffered by the individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it impracticable for the Class members



individually to redress the wrongs done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

**COUNT I**  
**(Misrepresentation and Nondisclosure-James Frey)**

38. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

39. At all relevant times Defendant Frey, by his own admission, knew that the assertions contained herein of this Complaint were untrue, and knew that the Book was not a non-fictional memoir. Nonetheless, he allowed and authorized his publisher Random House to publish the Book as a non-fictional memoir, making these false assertions.

40. Frey made the false assertions and agreed to represent the Book as a non-fictional memoir, with the expectation that people would believe these falsehoods in hope that he would personally profit by being able to sell the Book to the public and did profit from such sales of over 2 million copies

41. Defendant Frey made such false assertions and representations to gain publicity to increase sales and popularity of the Book.

42. Plaintiff and the putative class did rely on the truth of false characterizations of the Book as a non-fictional memoir when they purchased the Book.

43. Plaintiff and the putative class have been injured as a result of their reliance on the above-described false representations.

**COUNT II**  
**(Negligent Misrepresentation-Random House and Frey)**

44. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

45. Defendants Random House and Frey owed the Plaintiff and the class a duty to market the Book honestly. Defendant Random House owed the Plaintiff and the class a duty to investigate the truth of Frey's assertions before it marketed the Book as a non-fictional memoir.

46. Defendant breached his duty by falsely representing the Book as a non-fictional memoir to Random House. Random House breached its duty by failing to make a reasonable investigation into the truth or falsity of Frey's assertions.

47. Defendant Random House profited from such sales of over 2 million copies

48. Defendant Random House made such false assertions and representations to gain publicity to increase sales and popularity of the Book.

49. As a consequence of these breaches, the Plaintiff and the class suffered losses and damages.

50. Defendants are personally liable to refund the entire purchase price of every Book that has been sold to the Plaintiff and the class

**COUNT III**  
**(Fraud)**

51. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

52. Defendants knowingly, fraudulently, and actively misrepresented in advertisements and through the media that the Book entitled "A Million Little Pieces" authored by Defendant James Frey (hereinafter referred to as the "Book") was a "memoir" and a work of "non-fiction."

53. Central to the Book is the author's assertions that he was charged with assaulting an Ohio police officer with his car, with inciting a riot, with possession of crack cocaine and felony drunk driving-charges that he wrote resulted in a three-month prison term and knew at the

time that he wrote the book that most of those claims were false, and not borne out by police records.

54. At the time Frey wrote the Book, Frey knew that the assertions contained in the Book were false.

55. At the time Random House published the Book, it knew or should have known that the assertions contained in herein of this Complaint were false, especially because the falsity of these statements were borne out by public records.

56. Defendants fraudulently, with knowledge and intent, stated that the Book was a non-fictional recount of experiences of James Frey. Therefore, Defendants, with knowledge and intent issued fraudulent marketing and advertisements to Plaintiffs and the Class Members when they knew or by due diligence should have known that such statements were false, hereinafter referred to "Deceptive Practices."

57. Defendants had a duty to properly market and advertise the Book to the Plaintiff and Class Members and not intentionally misrepresent the contents to the Plaintiff and Class Members.

58. Defendants made the aforementioned misrepresentations with knowledge of the falsity of said representation or with reckless disregard as to the truth of the representations.

59. Defendants acted with the intention of deceiving Plaintiffs and Class Members and did in fact deceive Plaintiffs and Class Members as to the contents of the book.

60. Defendants acted with the intention of inducing Plaintiff and Class Members to rely on the false misrepresentation presented by Defendants as to the content of the Book to induce sales of the book.

61. Plaintiff and Class Members did in fact rely on the fraudulent misrepresentations of Defendants and purchased the Book and associated media.

62. Plaintiff's and Class Members' reliance were justified.

63. As a result of the false and fraudulent and intentional misrepresentation by Defendants, Plaintiff and Class Members have been damaged and are entitled to compensatory damages, attorney fees, and costs.

64. The conduct of Defendants was willful, wanton, malicious, oppressive, gross and egregious conduct, and evidence of Defendants' reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the representations of the content of the book. As such, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to punitive damages.

**COUNT IV**  
**(Promissory Estoppel)**

65. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

66. As a result of the Defendants' Deceptive Practices, Plaintiffs and the Class induced Plaintiffs and the Class Members to purchase the Book.

67. In reasonable reliance upon Defendants' Deceptive Practices, Plaintiff and Class Members purchased the Book and associated media.

68. Plaintiff's and Class Members' reliance upon Defendants' Deceptive Practices with respect to purchasing the book was reasonably foreseeable.

69. Plaintiffs and Class Members relied upon Defendants' Deceptive Practices to their detriment, and as a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' Deceptive Practices, Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered losses.

70. As a result of Defendants' Deceptive Practices, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to compensatory damages, attorney fees, and costs.

**COUNT V**  
**(Unjust Enrichment)**

71. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

72. Plaintiff and Class Members have been charged and have paid for the book and associated media as a result of Defendants' Deceptive Practices.

73. Defendants have been unjustly enriched at the expense of the Plaintiff and Class Members by their deceptive, misleading, and wrongful Defendants' Deceptive Practices.

74. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to damages as a result of the unjust enrichment of Defendants, including the return of all revenues obtained by Defendants as a result of selling the book and associated media.

**COUNT VII**  
**(Violation of the Ohio Deceptive Trade Practices Act)**

75. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

76. In the Defendants' promotions and marketing of the Book, Defendants have made and continue to make deceptive, false and misleading statements concerning the authenticity and contents of the Book relating to the fact that the Book purports to be a non-fictional recount of the experiences of James Frey

77. Those false and misleading statements deceived Plaintiff and Class Members and deceived a substantial segment of the target audience.

78. Defendants' deception is material as it has influenced purchasing decisions.

79. Plaintiff and Class Members have been damaged as a result of Defendants' deceptions.

80. Defendants have violated the Ohio Deceptive Trade Practices Act, O.R.C. 4165.01 *et seq.*

81. As a result of Defendants' violation, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to recover compensatory damages, attorneys' fees, and costs.

82. As said violation was willful, wanton, and malicious, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to punitive damages.

83. Plaintiff and Class Members are likely to continue to be damaged by Defendants' deceptive practices, and, accordingly, are entitled to an injunction against Defendants to prohibit Defendants from continuing these deceptive practices and the sale of the Book and associated media.

**COUNT VIII**  
**(Consumer Sales Practice Act)**

84. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference all of the allegations set forth above.

85. Plaintiff, the Class and the Subclass Members are "person" engaged in a consumer transaction or trade and commerce as defined by the Ohio Consumer Protection Act, O.R.C. 1345, *et seq.*

86. Defendants were engaged and continue to engage to promote, sell and market the Book and associated media based upon false representations as to the content of the Book in order to induce sales. This conduct constitutes unfair, unconscionable, and deceptive acts on the part of Defendants in violation of the Ohio Consumer Protection Act, O.R.C. 1345, *et seq.*

87. Plaintiff, the Class and the Subclass Members have been damaged as a result of Defendants' unfair, deceptive, and unconscionable acts or practices. As a result, Plaintiff, the Class

and the Subclass. Members are entitled to recover compensatory damages, treble damages, attorneys' fees, and costs.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and members of the Class and the Subclass respectfully request that this Court grant the following relief the Defendant:

1) That this action may be maintained as a class action under Rule 23(a) and (b)(2) and/or (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and that notice to the Class and the Subclass be provided in compliance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(3), and appointing Plaintiff as the representatives of the Class and the Subclass and Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the Class and the Subclass;

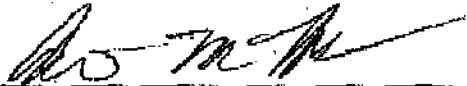
2) Ordering Defendant to immediately stop selling the Book and other such media renditions, at Defendant's expense;

3) Awarding Plaintiff and members of the Class and the Subclass compensatory, and punitive damages, and restitution, in an amount to be proven at trial;

4) Awarding the Class and Subclass their costs and expenses in this litigation, including, but not limited to, expert fees and reasonable attorneys' fees;

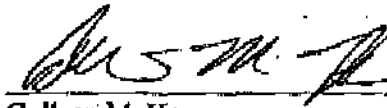
5) That the Court award Plaintiff and members of the Class and the Subclass such other and further relief as may be necessary and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan J. Statman (0012045)  
Colleen M. Hegge (0038506) (of counsel)  
2900 Chemed Center  
255 East Fifth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
Phone: (513) 621-2666  
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[ajstatman@shslegal.com](mailto:ajstatman@shslegal.com)  
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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

**JURY DEMAND:**

Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the class she seeks to represent, hereby respectfully requests a trial by jury.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Colleen M. Hegge





RECEIPT NUMBER

538843

9

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

GREGORY R. RIVARD, Individually, and on  
Behalf of All Other Similarly Situated Consumers,

Plaintiff,

vs.

RANDOM HOUSE, INC., a New York corporation,

Defendant.

Case: 2:06-cv-10759  
Assigned To : Feikens, John  
Referral Judge: Komives, Paul J  
Assign. Date : 02/21/2006 @ 10:49 a.m.  
Description: cmp gregory r. rivard v.  
random house (tam)

E. POWELL MILLER (P39487)

Miller Shea, P.C.

Co-Counsel for Plaintiff

300 Miller Shea Building

950 West University Drive

Rochester, MI 48307

(248) 841-2200

MARK S. BAUMKEL (P27613)

Provizer & Phillips, P.C.

Co-Counsel for Plaintiff

30200 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200

Bingham Farms, MI 48025

(248) 642-0444

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff Gregory R. Rivard, by his attorneys, Miller Shea, P.C. and Provizer & Phillips, P.C.,  
states as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Plaintiff is a Michigan resident.
2. Upon information and belief, Defendant, is a New York corporation, and regularly and systematically conduct business in this State and in this judicial district, and the events giving

rise to this case took place in this judicial district in the state of Michigan.

3. This is a class action in which the aggregate amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and this Court has jurisdiction pursuant to diversity of citizenship as described in 28 USC § 1332(d)(2), and venue pursuant to 28 USC § 1391(a). Subject matter jurisdiction is also premised on the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1711.

**CLASS ACTION AND FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

4. Defendant has published, marketed, advertised, distributed, manufactured, and/or sold as a true autobiographical work of non-fiction concerning the actual real life factual experiences of the author a book entitled "A Million Little Pieces"

5. In truth, said book is largely a fictional non-factual account.

6. Defendant has distributed and sold millions of these books, including within Michigan and throughout the United States, and plaintiff is one of the millions of purchasers.

7. This is a class action suit which seeks recovery of damages and/or restitution in the form of purchase monies paid for purchase of said products by the named Plaintiff and the Plaintiff class. The named Plaintiff has sustained damage typical of the proposed class.

8. Plaintiff brings this action on her own behalf and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated.

9. The class which Plaintiff's seek to represent is composed, jointly or alternatively, of: all persons who, like the Plaintiff, bought one or more copies of the above described product (the "Class") prior to public acknowledgment by Defendant that the book was largely fictional.

10. The class is composed of millions of persons, the joinder of whom is impracticable. The disposition of their claims in a class action will benefit both the parties and the Court.

11. There are questions of fact and law which are common to all members of the class, and which predominate over any individual issues, including, *inter alia*, the following:

- (a) Whether the Defendant negligently published, manufactured, marketed, advertised, distributed, and/or sold a product that was not what it purported to be-i.e. published, distributed and/or sold as a true factual account a largely fictional story);
- (b) Whether Defendant has breached express and implied warranties;
- (c) Whether Defendant has negligently and/or intentionally misrepresented and/failed to adequately disclose material information about the true nature of the product;
- (d) Whether the class has been damaged, and if so, the appropriate measure of damages including the nature of injunctive and/or other equitable relief to which the class is entitled.

12. The above common issues of fact and law predominate over any arguable individualized issues; the principal common and identical issue being the deceptive representations described above.

13. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the class because Plaintiff and all of the class members' damages arise from and were caused by having purchased the subject product; and as a result, the evidence and the legal theories regarding Defendant's alleged wrongful conduct is identical for Plaintiff and all of the class members.

14. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the class and Plaintiff has no interests which are contrary to or in conflict with those of the class she seeks to represent. Plaintiff has retained competent counsel experienced in class action litigation to further ensure such protection and to prosecute this action vigorously.

15. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the class would create

an increased risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the class, which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the party opposing the class and would lead to repetitious trials of the numerous common questions of facts and law. Plaintiff knows of no difficulty that will be encountered in the management of this litigation that would preclude its maintenance as a class action. As a result, a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

16. Proper and sufficient notice of this action may be provided to the class members through notice published in appropriate publications and/or broadcast in appropriate media, posted on Defendant's internet web sites, and/or distributed by retailers of said product.

17. Absent representative action, it is unlikely that Plaintiff and other members of the putative class could justify the time and expense of litigation which would then allow Defendant to retain the proceeds of its ill-gotten gains.

18. That at all times relevant herein, Defendant published and distributed said product for re-sale to retail purchasers such as Plaintiffs.

19. The product simply is not what it purports to be-i.e., it was published and sold as a true account when in fact it is fiction, and consumers deserve and legally are entitled to restitution.

#### COUNT 1

#### VIOLATION OF THE MICHIGAN CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (Michigan only)

20. Plaintiffs re-allege all preceding paragraphs.

21. Defendant violated the Michigan Consumer Protection Act, MCL § 445.901, et. seq.,  
by, inter alia:

- (a) **Representing** that the goods have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities that they do not have. MCL § 445.903(c);
- (b) **Failing to adequately reveal** in advertising and/or at the time of purchase various **material facts**, the omission of which tends to mislead or deceive the consumer, and which facts could not reasonably be known by the consumer in violation of MCL § 445.903(s), (bb) & (cc).

22. In fact, the named Plaintiff, being typical reasonable purchasers, would not have purchased and/or consumed the product if the Defendant had complied with the MCPA.

23. A reasonable consumer would want to know by clear disclosure before purchasing such product that the product is NOT, as represented, a true factual account of the author's experiences.

24. As a result of Defendant's violation of the Michigan Consumer Protection Act, Plaintiff and members of the class have incurred damages by purchasing the subject product.

25. Further, as a result of Defendant's conduct, Defendant has been and will be unjustly enriched by the receipt of millions of dollars in fees, profits and other monies from the wrongful distribution of the product to Michigan consumers which were sold through deceptive practices which affirmatively and by omission misrepresented the true nature of the product.

## COUNT II

### BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY (Michigan and National)

- 26. Plaintiff re-alleges all preceding paragraphs.
- 27. Defendant published and distributed said book accompanied by descriptions giving the false impression that it had certain characteristics which it did not really have; e.g., that it was a true account of the author's personal experiences when actually it was a fictional story.

28. Plaintiff and members of the Plaintiff class purchased a supposed true account which was in reality a phony account and thereby sustained damage as above described as a proximate result of said breach of warranty.

**COUNT III**

**UNJUST ENRICHMENT/RESTITUTION/DISGORGE**  
**MENT (Michigan and National)**

29. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs.

30. Defendant has taken in millions of dollars from the publication and distribution of said book, and currently now acknowledges and admits on its website that the book was sold as true but really is phony.

31. The named Plaintiff alleges that said moneys received by Defendant resulted from wrongful conduct as described above, as to which it would be unfair and inequitable for Defendant to retain said ill-gotten gains.

32. If Plaintiff proves her allegations she and all members of the class would be entitled to full restitution of all purchase monies and/or compensation for the reduced value of the product they received compared to the product represented by Defendant.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and members of the class of similarly situated consumers request the following relief:

A. Certification as a class action, together with such sub-classes as deemed appropriate and appointment of named Plaintiff and her counsel to represent the Class; Restitution of the purchase price paid by named Plaintiff for the product purchased by the named Plaintiff and on

behalf of the entire class of consumers class wide notice and administrative costs to be awarded against Defendants;

B. Injunctive and/or equitable relief as deemed appropriate by the court, including but not limited to disgorgement of ill-gotten gains into a common fund for the benefit of the plaintiff class in such manner as to be determined by the court;

C. Interest, costs, and attorneys' fees (including actual attorney fees pursuant to consumer protection laws).

Respectfully submitted,

MILLER SHEA, P.C.

By:



E. Powell Miller (P39487)  
950 West University Drive, Suite 300  
Rochester, Michigan 48307  
(248) 841-2200

MARK S. BAUMKEL (P27613)  
Provizer & Phillips, P.C.  
Co-Counsel for Plaintiff  
30200 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025  
(248) 642-0444

Dated: February 17, 2006



JS-44  
(REV. 3/2/93)

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

## I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

GREGORY R. RIVARD, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated consumers

## DEFENDANTS

RANDOM HOUSE, INC.

(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF Wayne, MI  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED New York, NY  
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED

## (C) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)

Miller Shea, P.C. E. Powell Miller (P39487)  
950 W. University Drive, Suite 300  
Rochester, MI 48307  
(248) 841-2200

## ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

JOHN FEIKENS

06-10759

## II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant  
☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)  
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

## III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES AND JURISDICTION (For Diversity Cases Only)

- Citizen of This State ☒ 1 ☐ 2 Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State ☐ 4 ☐ 5  
Citizen of Another State ☐ 2 ☒ 3 Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State ☐ 5 ☐ 6  
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country ☐ 3 ☐ 6 Foreign Nation ☐ 6 ☐ 6

## IV. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

| CONTRACT   | TORTS  | FORFEITURE/PENALTY  | BANKRUPTCY   | OTHER STATUTES   |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance<br><input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine<br><input type="checkbox"/> 130 Seller Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument<br><input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 160 Leases Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 170 Recovery of Delinquent Student Loans (First Violation)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 180 Recovery of Overpayment of Veterans' Benefits<br><input type="checkbox"/> 190 Bankruptcy Suits<br><input type="checkbox"/> 200 Other Contracts<br><input type="checkbox"/> 210 Contract (Product Liability) | <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Assault<br><input type="checkbox"/> 220 Assault, Libel & Slander<br><input type="checkbox"/> 230 Federal Employer Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 240 Marine<br><input type="checkbox"/> 250 Motor Vehicle Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 260 Other Personal Injury<br><input type="checkbox"/> 270 Personal Injury<br><input type="checkbox"/> 280 Personal Injury—Mar. Malpractice<br><input type="checkbox"/> 290 Personal Injury—Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 300 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 310 Other Fraud<br><input type="checkbox"/> 320 Truth in Lending<br><input type="checkbox"/> 330 Other Personal Property Damage<br><input type="checkbox"/> 340 Property Damage Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Agriculture<br><input type="checkbox"/> 320 Other Food & Drug<br><input type="checkbox"/> 330 Drug, Medical Device, or Property 21 USC 881<br><input type="checkbox"/> 340 Liquor Laws<br><input type="checkbox"/> 350 R.R. & Truck<br><input type="checkbox"/> 360 Airline Regs.<br><input type="checkbox"/> 370 Occupational Safety/Health<br><input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other | <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Chapter 11 USC 118<br><input type="checkbox"/> 420 Withdrawal 36 USC 157<br><input type="checkbox"/> 430 Property Rights<br><input type="checkbox"/> 440 Copyright<br><input type="checkbox"/> 450 Patent<br><input type="checkbox"/> 460 Trademark   | <input type="checkbox"/> 470 State Reapportionment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 480 Antitrust<br><input type="checkbox"/> 490 Banks and Banking<br><input type="checkbox"/> 500 Commercial/Credit Relations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 510 Deportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 520 Reregulation of Public Utilities<br><input type="checkbox"/> 530 Selective Training and Assignment Administration<br><input type="checkbox"/> 540 Customer Challenge 15 USC 3410<br><input type="checkbox"/> 550 Agricultural Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 560 Economic Stabilization Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 570 Environmental Matters<br><input type="checkbox"/> 580 Energy Allocation Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 590 Freedom of Information Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 600 Appeal of Fee Order (Frigton Under Equal Access to Justice)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 610 Constitutionality of State Statutes<br><input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Statutory Actions   |
| REAL PROPERTY  | CIVIL RIGHTS   | PRISONER PETITIONS  | LABOR  | SOCIAL SECURITY  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Land Condemnation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 720 Foreclosure<br><input type="checkbox"/> 730 Rent Lease & Ejectment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 740 Torts to Land<br><input type="checkbox"/> 750 Tort Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 760 All Other Real Property   | <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting<br><input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare<br><input type="checkbox"/> 445 Other Civil Rights   | <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> 520 Habeas Corpus<br><input type="checkbox"/> 530 General<br><input type="checkbox"/> 540 Death Penalty<br><input type="checkbox"/> 550 Marital & Other<br><input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Rights<br><input type="checkbox"/> 570 Prison Conditions   | <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Management Representing & Unfair Labor Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 750 Other Labor Litigation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 760 Other Labor Litigation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 770 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 630 HIA (10590)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 640 Social Security (1921)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 650 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 660 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 670 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 680 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 690 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 700 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 710 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 720 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 730 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 740 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 750 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 760 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 770 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 780 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 790 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 800 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 810 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 820 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 830 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 840 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 850 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 860 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 870 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 880 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 890 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 900 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 910 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 920 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 930 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 940 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 950 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 960 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 970 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 980 Social Security (405(b))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 990 Social Security (405(b)) |

## V. ORIGIN

(PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding  
☐ 2 Removed from State Court  
☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court  
☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened  
☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)  
☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation  
☐ 7 Appeal to Judge from Magistrate Judgment

## VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (NOTE THE US CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE.)

DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNLESS DIVERSITY

28 USC § 1332(d)(2) and USC § 1711

## VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☒ YES ☐ NO

## VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions):

IF ANY

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

DATE

February 17, 2006

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

APPLYING IT

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE

**PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11**

1. Is this case that has been previously discontinued or dismissed?

YES ☐ NO ☒

If yes, give the following information:

Court: \_\_\_\_\_

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Other than stated above, are there any pending or previously discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or any other court, including state court? (Companion cases are matters in which it appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or related parties are present and the cases arise out of the same transaction or occurrence.)

YES ☐ NO ☒

If yes, give the following information:

Court: \_\_\_\_\_

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_